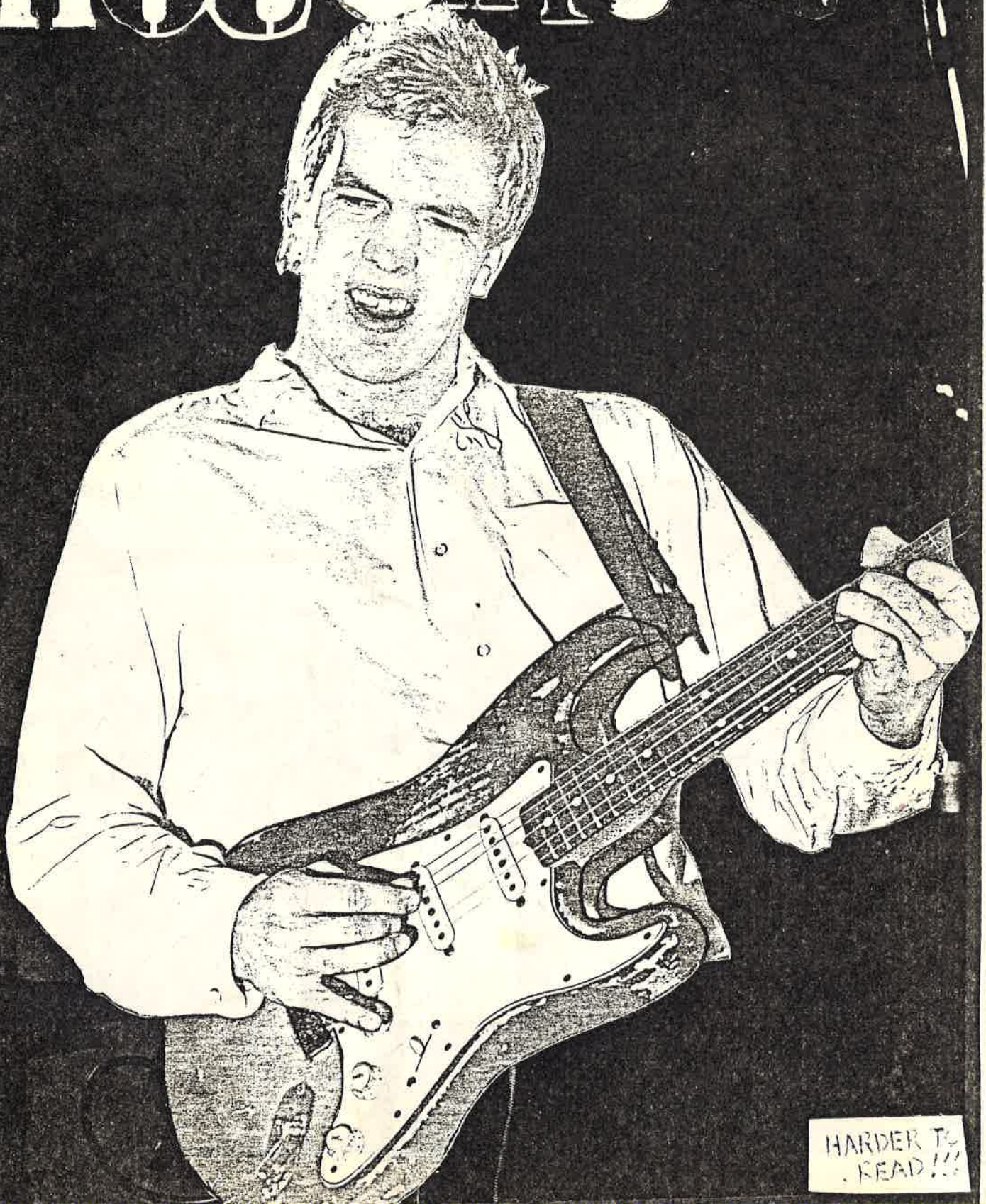


idle thoughts

45¢

#4



HARDER TO
READ!!!

IDLE THOUGHTS #4

Yeah, this is the new Idle Thoughts; Less pages but just as many words and articles, and that means less \$ that you'll have to pay. It was printed and distributed on August 29th (four months late). Part of the tardiness is due to the fact that we were trying to expand to 200 copies instead of the 100 that we usually have, but, unfortunately I ran out of money; hence: the smaller issue. Printed at Copytime. Photos by James Wong (438-0764), Phil Lowe (253-7697) and Steve Josephson (596-6191). Here's the thanks list:

Paul Cook, Steve Jones and Paul Simonon, Dave Spanner, Ken Lester, Gerry Useless, Peter Cocking, Gerry Barad, Tom Harrison, Buck and John, Dave Mincey, Quintessence, Friends Records, Alex Varty and Dennis, Ray, Grant, Don, Baghead, Jay O'Keefe, Christine from Breaking Away, Sharon and Wendy from Pacific Report on CBC, Livio Susin, Joanie, Steve Macklam, David Wisdom, New Youth Prod., Co-op, Kathryn Thurman, Keith, Someone or other Topovitch from Thunder Bay, J.B. Shayne, Creep Mag., Subterranean Records, The National Plagarist, Damage mag, Repeater, and the 'Vawn Hawen Woolvs' crowd....

Special Thanks to...

Gordie Agar from Jett Set, Doug J. Brown, Pink Section, Barry Greenfield and the Cover Boys, James Wong and Phil Lowe, Mike Armstrong, Steve Josephson, Lari, Marie Antoinette and Steve Richards.

Written Exclusively by Len Morgan
(unless noted)

Right: Joey Shithead takes a guitar lesson from Bill Napier-Hemy.



PUBLIC HAIRS

The Public Hares, Delta's first real punk band and probably Vancouver's youngest band, have progressed rapidly over the past three months. From a musically inexperienced duo with an acoustic guitar to a Strat copy guitar and a Gibson copy bass with a lead vocalist. All they need now is a drummer and more practice and they hope to play live in December. The current line-up is Pat Sasso on guitar, Len Morgan (that's me) on bass and Pat Booker on vocals.

**** If you are a young drummer (preferably suburban) who is interested in playing '60's oriented pop-punk with the Public Hares: Please phone
946-8732 Len
946-9320 Pat ****



-Plumber -
-Draft Dodger -
-Born to Die - Sugar, Sugar -
-Leave Me Alone -
-Louie, Louie - Rockers -
-Valeri -

DEAD KENNEDYS

San Francisco's best group have just released their best single. It's better than Calif. Uber Alles because both songs stand out rather than just one (I only listened to Man With the Dogs 3 or 4 times). Police Truck is an immortal song about six guys who borrow a paddy wagon and dress up as pigs and have a night on the town:

"Tonight's the night that we got the truck/ Going downtown just to beat up the rucks/ Your turn to drive, I'll bring the beer/ It's an evening shift, no one to fear/ just ride..."

Jello Biafra's vocals come across so clear and powerful, complementing the psychedelic-type screaming guitar and the throbbing bass, not to mention the great drumming.

Holiday in Cambodia is another classic about some College students spending a month or so in Cambodia with the refugees, like the refugees. More great lyrics. Police Truck is also available on the Live at the Deaf Club album. A great single and a must in all record collections.

The Dead Kennedys are working on an album that will be released through Cherry Red Records.

Tsawwassen Sun Festival - Steve Richards

Even though I journeyed into the jungles of Tsawwassen knowing very well that I wouldn't be seeing another Rock Against Radiation in Vanier Park, what with the mainly obscure line-up of bands, I left Winkskill Park with a great sense of disappointment.

I came to the park inbetween a couple of the U.B.C. spawned Vegetables' selections of their own brand of psychedelic-acid rock, which wasn't bad, nor were their renditions of the Stones' Shattered and the Sex Pistols' Pretty Vacant (though how many of the typically long-haired, beer drinking, "Van Halen Rules" mob were aware that the Vegetables' last song was originally a punk song, I dearly wonder). The band seemed popular throughout the crowd of perhaps 300 'Rock & Rollers'.

Then came Streetcar. Oh Gawd. Though the band played songs by such accessible bands as Trooper, Rachel Sweet, Santana, Eric Clapton, among others, suffice to say that the audience didn't like Streetcar at all. And with barely any musical ability or personality, I didn't blame them.

Still with a bad taste in my mouth from the previous group, I greeted the Semi-tones with considerable approval. The female lead singer came across quite energetically, with a style not unlike that of Pearl (Harbour and the Explosions) E. Gates. They didn't put on a great set, but not all together terrible, either. But I felt sorry for the Semi-tones as they received boos and cries of "Punk Rock Sucks", neither of which they deserved from the ignorant rabble. Besides, they weren't Punk!

The next on the bill was the sort of modish, Jam-like Aircuts. The two songs from the single, Sheila and Radioactivity were good, danceable stuff (though no-one dared to pogo as the audiences' hostile, anti-punk sentiments were becoming more obvious and ugly). Actually, the split was about half and half among the crowd favouring the Perrier drinking Liverpudians (2/3 of the band is from Liverpool apparently) which was amazing considering the audience's mentality.

As the Aircuts left the stage, the 'FOX' (as in CFOX) came on to throw copies of Queen, Led Zep, Foreigner, etc., into the scrambling mob. An awe-inspiring scene. It was obvious that as the moment the Novels began, things were not going as the promoters of the gathering had hoped. I didn't appreciate their unoriginal, trendy New Wave (ala the Knack) set, nor did the impatient, now seething crowd.

The last band I heard was the only one I had ever heard before the festival, namely the Secret V's. The group, with a new, female guitarist, seems to improve after every gig that I see them, and that day (B.C. day--Aug. 4) was no exception. Unfortunately, having a certain punk edge to them didn't come in too handy with the audience.

Despite an onslaught of beer-cans, the band played almost half a dozen songs, while the lead singer, Lister Travis, sneered to the effect of "One thing is, you guys are such bad shots!!" Those could have been famous last words, as one bottle came flying at him and smashed inside the drumkit. The lead singer of the V's abruptly ended the set and scanned the crowd for the perpetrator of the thrown bottle, who emerged, with a friend (they never fight alone), from the 'army' of Rockers. They had it out briefly, though neither were seriously hurt, obviously the Secret V's would not continue.

The band scheduled to go on next were the Metros, though who knows what might've occurred had a hard-core punk band like the Metros had gone on despite the disturbing atmosphere.

At this point I left the park, where the final band of the festival, Profile, a group known apparently for it's Led Zep covers, was left to 'soothe' the audience. Last year's festival had the Modernettes and Private School who were both given the same treatment as this years 'New Wave' groups. I guess the promoters thought a more or less calmer 'New Wave' bill would be safer. It doesn't matter, guys, if audiences such as the one in Tsawwassen don't want anything but the garbage they call 'rock'n'roll', then let 'em have just what they deserve.

by Steve Richards

DR BY:

PUNKS and VIOLENCE

by Mike Armstrong

I have been asked to write about all the violence regarding punks lately (ie. The Grant Street Massacre & Undertones). I am beginning to get scared. I, for one, abhor violence. I do not like getting beat up. Nor does anyone, I'd like to think. A question I'd like answered is: Why??? We have done nothing to the rockers. We only look different and listen to what they call "weird" music. Big crime, isn't it? It's always been bad but not this bad. When they (meaning rockers and Heavy metal fans) break 14 year old girls' legs while in their sleep, with baseball bats, it's sick!! And, of course, the "Police" blame the punks: "You shouldn't go anywhere alone" they warn us. So that means we're all going to have to sleep together. And if we do that, the "Police" will arrest us all for gross indecency.

Another story I've heard: 8 heavy metal fans (I mean BIG rockers) beat up three punks, the oldest of which was thirteen years old. What are they trying to prove?? Somebody tell me. Please!! Are they saying that they're tough? The only thing that tells me is that they're very cowardly, very, very cowardly. I'm not saying they're all like that. Just most of the ones I've met.

When is the last time you heard of a punk beating up a rocker just because he was a rocker. I't doesn't happen. If something isn't done, then somebody is going to get killed. Then maybe the "Police" might notice that we are doing nothing to deserve this.

Thank You.

YOUNG CANADIANS

Slightly dissapointing. There's nothing exactly wrong with it, but I guess I expected more, especially with the dull second side. All the songs are powerful, medium fast, expertly performed, and nicely arranged, with the inclusion of a few interesting and tasteful effects. But the tunes themselves seem to be pretty predictable, and nothing is really outstanding, except for perhaps Data Redux, with lyrics like:

"What is all this information?
Where is it all coming from?

Reduced to data-

The new definition of the neutron bomb."

With more variety, and better material, I expect this trio's next effort to be as fine as their earlier releases.

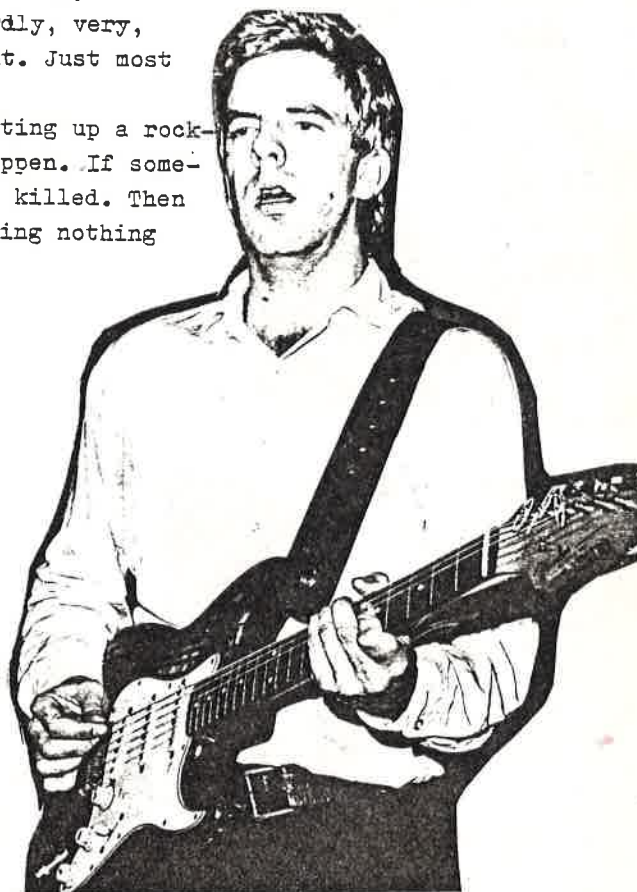
I would rate this record 6½/10.

-Avram Finch-

IDLE THOUGHT OF THE MONTH:

"Have you never seen a dead man opening old frisbee-cushion pocket-holders, or buying biscuit-green almond papers with twisted hovercraft ointment?"

BENITO FAUSO



COVER BOYS

COVER BOYS' single: New World/She's a Jerk

The Cover Boys: a bright young band with a speedy pop sound and commercial potential. After hearing all the hype about the extravagant production job being done on the single and listening to the band's practice tapes and their live show at the Home Cookin' 2, I expected a powerful, but polished, sounding record. Polished it is, but powerful? New World is geared towards the AM listening band but it's a bit too weak for the Heavy Metal sound that CFUN is aiming at. It's being played on CFMI, CITS and Co-op, though, and is listed at #28 on the A&A extras chart. She's a Jerk was great in concert but I feel that it was 'over-produced'.

All that I can say is that if you dedicate yourself to listening to the likes of DOA or the Subhumans, you'll probably hate this record; my suggestion is : instead of buying this record, check them out live where their true sound can be heard. Quintessence will follow this up with an album to be released in late winter.



DOA

DOA: SOMETHING BETTER CHANGE!!!

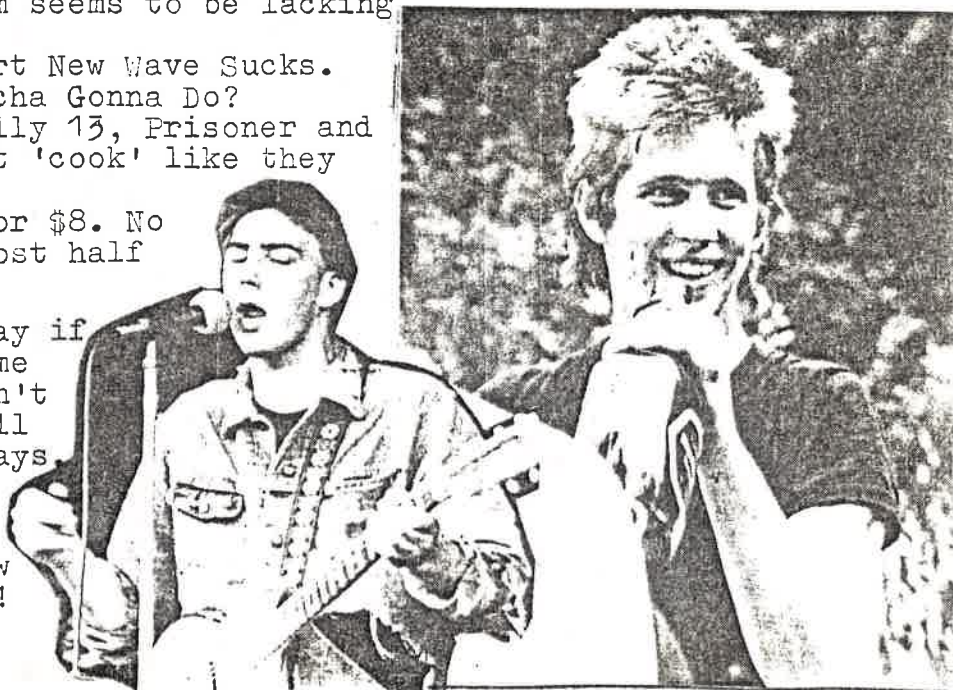
photo- Len
all others- Steve

The album has just been released yesterday (Aug. 28) so I don't have too much time to review it, as this goes to the printers in a few hours so, here's the review, in point form:

- the older songs are more or less the same arrangements whereas the new stuff has a completely different approach to the arrangements.
- New Age and Great White Hope stand out among all the new songs.
- on the whole, the album seems to be lacking of DOA's energy.
- the extra cut is a short New Wave Sucks.
- same recording of Whatcha Gonna Do?
- the old songs, especially 13, Prisoner and World War Three, don't 'cook' like they used to.
- a bit expensive at \$7 or \$8. No Exit's album hardly cost half that much!!

I'm not going to say if it's recommended by me or not because it won't matter, you'll probably get it anyways.

Hey, I'm the first one in the World to review DOA's album on paper!!



nophotosof Dave Gregg, sorry...

cover boys

The Cover Boys, a young, Vancouver band, have just completed their first single for Quintessence Records. The A-side, "It's A New World", has their Manager, Barry Greenfield, excited about possible AM radio airplay. But the real four-course meal is in the flip-side, "She's a Jerk", co-written by Greenfield. The song features the best of the Undertones, Subhumans and '60s bluntness all rolled into one, tight song. The single should be on the shelves as you read this. An album should be started in November...

D- Dick Jane; R- Ron Allen; M- Murry Wystrach

ME- How would you describe your style of music?

D- Just modern rock, thats all it is. Sounds blase, but...

ME- Who are you influenced by? Musically.

D- That's kinda weird cause we don't listen to groups with intent to sound like them. We all listen to different music, too.

M- We don't idolize anybody so we don't try to sound like any band.

D- I listen to so much different stuff that I could't say what turns up in my music.

ME- What type of audience are you aiming at?

D- As broad as possible. Young people who like Trooper right down to people who like a heavy punk band. But we're not going to change our sound to fill that gap.

R- All teenagers! That's where most of the action is happening.

The under 20 crowd.

ME- What do you plan to accomplish as a band?

D- I would like to be a recording success, myself. We'd like to be on the charts as long as we can keep our sound.

R- I think, as a short term thing, what we're looking for is to get working steady and be self-supporting so we can all quit our jobs and go full-time music.

ME- What's happening to the Vancouver scene?

D- It's losing momentum.

M- It was going really good for a while.

R- All the energy's getting sucked out of

D- The young bands need places to

club owners a little more open-minded.

there are tons of places to play

is all gone cause they play too much

ME- What do you play for? Money,

Fame or just fun?

R- All three

D- Fame

M- Drugs

ME- Where did you get your name.

D- It's the opposite of Cover Girl.

R- And it came from him

(pointing to Dick.)

D- We were thinking of

changing it-- to the

Beatles or something...

ME- How long have you

been playing your instr.?

M- I've been drumming

for 8 years.

R- Bass for 8 years.

D- Uh, 10-- no-- this is

30, um, 69, 70, 71 -- 11

years altogether.

ME- Have you played any

previous instruments?

R- When I was in my early

teens I was into classical

music and I played flute

and stuff like that.

D- I played trumpet for 9

years when I was into Herb

Albert. I took up guitar

when I heard the Monkees.

ME- How did you meet each

other?

D- Barry and I were holding

auditions and I got Ron's

from this guy.

R- And I knew Murry from

this band we played in

before.

ME- What do you write songs

about?

D- Things about what you

hear about in the news.

Media stuff. No hidden

meanings or heavy politics

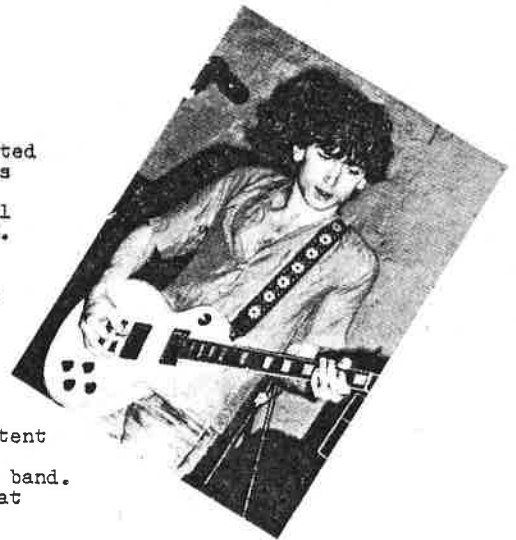
either.

M- We're just bringing a

fact out.

R- The whole thing with the words and the music are the same.

We come across rather "cut and dried"...



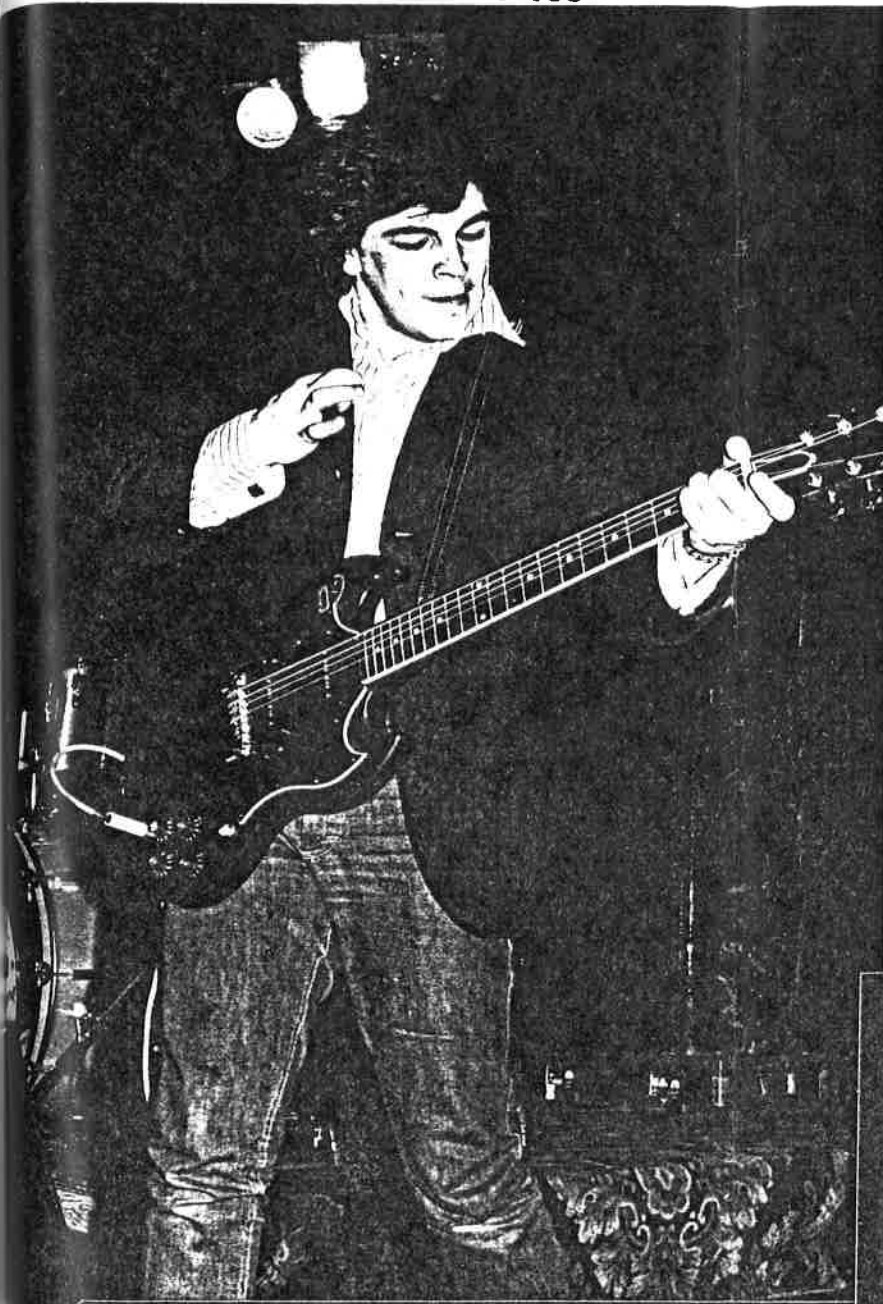
it.
play and with
in Toronto
but the energy

Murray

Dick

Buck-Modernettes

photos by Steve



Steve Jones

Jade Blade



FEARGAL-UNDERTONES

nazi females in bondage



RECORD REVIEWS
by Antoine
Shondell

The Modernettes 12 inch E.P.-

Six songs, and every one a winner? How many local bands could put out an E.P. and say that? Well, the Modernettes, for one.

This is the first venture on vinyl for the Modernettes, but if the local fans have anything to say about it, it'll be nowhere near their last. Since the Pointed Sticks have practically nothing since the abortive Brinsley Schwarz-produced E.P. on Stiff Records, the Modernettes have gained a new following as the pop band to watch in Vancouver. And with good reason.

Buck Cherry, the lead singer, guitarist, songwriter and general spokesman for the group is possibly the most dedicated member of the Vanc. new wave/punk community, refusing to compromise on anything that would affect his music or his stance. Add to this the sarcastic bent that his lyrics usually take, and the extraordinary musicianship of the group as a whole, and you have a group that is destined to go places. Right now, the place where everyone is going is Quintessence, where they are flocking in droves to pick up the new E.P.

Buck is by no means the entire focal point of the group, though--the other members of the three-man troupe are no bit players. The Modernettes just wouldn't seem the same without Mary-Jo Kopechne's studiously exuberant bass work or John McAdams' frenzied Keith Moon-on-speed drum fills. Together, the three of them manage to put out some of the greatest power pop I've ever heard from anywhere, let alone Vancouver.

cont. →

Buck's musical standpoint is poised somewhere between the '60s and the '80s. The music is very obviously '60s influenced; "Confidential" sounds as though it could have been a hit by the Ronettes. The lyrics boast a post-punk pessimism that sounds much more fresher than any "doo-wop, my baby loves me" lyrics can manage, though, and the relationship in Buck's songs are always tinged with his sarcastic viewpoint on teen lives. "Teen City" could probably be adopted as the official anthem of Richmond youth: "Nothin' to do in this fuckin' town/ just drink and drink and then fall down".

"Barbra"; "Suicide Club"; "Celebrity Crack-Up"; "Confidential"; "Little Girls"; "Teen City"; every song deserves to be a top-40 AM single. But will these guys get an album out? If Martha and the Morons are deserving of an album, then the Modernettes definitely warrant one. They're due to release a new single soon with "No Tears" as the A-side and (to quote Buck) "something fast" on the flip. 'Till then, I'll meet you down at the Suicide Club (cause that's where the girls are).

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CONCERTS:

Commodore-
Records, Sept 1
Ultravox, Sept 15
Modettes, Sept 23
Psychedelic Furs,
Oct 13
possibly Chrome and
Sioxie and the
Banshees

Cave-

UJ3RK5/Cover Boys,
Sept 8

Rohans-

Young Canadians,
No Fun, Metros,
Modernettes,
Dishrags, Secret
V's and more!!
Sometime in mid-
September

Streetbeat- looking
for bands to play
in hall gigs, phone
Phil- 438-8800

BAND NEWS:

No Fun's EP should be out
by the middle of Sept.
Pointed Sticks are record-
ing their album for Stiff.
No Exit have broken up!!
Subhumans album on Friends
should be out by Nov.
Friends is also working on
a second compilation album.
The Metros got cheated out of
the recording time they
were supposed to have won
from Gary Taylor.
The Modernettes will start
work on their single soon.
Rogelletti Records are
re-releasing the Negative
Trend LP, the Zippy Pinhead
EP is being mixed and in the
planning stages are the
Rude Norton 2 LP set Live
album and the Tots in
Bondage single.
With EPs coming out are
AKA, Dishrags and Tunnel
Canary.
The UJ3RK5 have not
(contrary to popular
belief) signed a long-term
contract with Polygram. They
have only agreed to distribute
the Quint. EP but no further
plans have been made.
DOA's album has almost sold
out of it's first pressing
of 500 copies.
One more thing: Idle Thoughts
has gone bankrupt...

